



Grace Church Stamford welcomes you
to our Sunday Service
where our aim is to meet Jesus Christ
through his Word and Spirit

October 17, 2021 AD

Call To Worship

Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! **Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.** Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! **For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.** For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. **Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

Singing Together *Rejoice, The Lord Is King*

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Rejoice the Lord is King,
Your Lord and King adore
Mortals give thanks and sing
And triumph ever more

*Chorus Lift up your heart
Lift up your voice rejoice
Again I say, rejoice*

Jesus the Savior reigns,
The God of truth and love
When he had purged our stains,
He took his seat above (Chorus)

His Kingdom cannot fail
He rules o'er earth and heaven
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given (Chorus)

He sits at God's right hand
Till all His foes submit
And bow to his command
And fall beneath his feet (Chorus)

Rejoice in glorious hope,
Jesus the judge shall come
And take his servants up
To their eternal home

*Chorus 2 We soon shall hear
The angel's voice
The trump of God shall sound, rejoice*

*Bridge Rejoice, come and lift your hands and
raise your voice
He is worthy of all praise
Rejoice, sing the mercies of your king
And with trembling rejoice*

Hearing God's Word

2 Chronicles 36: 1-23

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Confessing Together

God of birth, God of joy, God of life, we come to you as a people hungry for good news. We have been so dead to miracles that we have missed the world's rebirth. We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures and have overlooked the joy you offer us. We have been so concerned with making a living that we have missed the life you set among us as your church. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift of new life; open our lips and hands to share it with all humanity in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone, a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Thanks be to God.**

Singing Together

You Alone Can Rescue

Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman | 2008 Atlas Mountain Songs | CCLI License # 11280377

Who O Lord could save themselves
Their own soul could heal
Our shame was deeper than the sea
Your grace is deeper still (2x)

*Chorus And You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise*

You O Lord have made a way
The great divide You healed
For when our hearts were far away
Your love went further still
Yes Your love goes further still (Chorus 2x)

*Bridge We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes
You're the giver of life
We lift up our eyes lift up our eyes
You're the giver of life (2x) (Chorus)*

Praying Together

Hearing God's Word Proclaimed

Haggai 1-2

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Communing Together

Invitation

All who are weak, feed on the bread of life. All who thirst, come to the waters. Come, all who are weary, come, all who yearn for forgiveness. The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ has washed over us, and our gracious and holy God beckons and blesses. Drink deeply of these living waters. From east and west, from north and south, people will come and take their places at the banquet in the kingdom of God.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Awaiting his coming in glory, let us pray with confidence as our Savior has taught us: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil, for the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of our Lord. So let a person examine themselves, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills, and our works, a continual thank-offering to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord
She is His new creation
By water and the Word
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died

Elect from every nation
Yet one o'er all the earth
Her charter of salvation
One Lord, one faith, one birth
One holy name she blesses
Partakes one holy food
And to one hope she presses
With every grace endued

*Chorus Hallelujah, our salvation
 Jesus Christ is our foundation (2x)*

'Mid toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won
O happy ones and holy
Lord give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly
On high may dwell with Thee (Chorus)

Benediction for Mission

The Gospel According to Haggai

Introduction: What does the work of the Lord look like?

1. Build for God's glory (1:1-15)

Post-Exilic History of Israel and the World

586BC	Babylonian empire destroys Jerusalem and Temple (2 Chronicles 36, 2 Kings 25)
562	Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar dies
539	Persia defeats Babylon, King Belshazzar on the throne of Babylon (Daniel 5)
538	Persian King Cyrus sends Jewish exiles back (Ezra 1, Isaiah 45)
536	Altar constructed, temple foundation laid (Ezra 3)
530	King Cyrus dies, <u>Ahasuerus</u> takes the throne, opposition prevents temple rebuilding (Ezra 4)
520	Haggai 1
515	Temple construction completed
332	Alexander the Great conquers Persia
323	Alexander dies and empire divided among generals
64	Rome occupies Judah
31	Roman conquest over Greece, Battle of Actium

2. Build for God's greater glory (2:1-9)

3. Wait for God's glory (2:10-23)

Application

*** Prayer for those searching for truth** Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. While I find that hard to believe, help me to believe your claims. Guide me, teach me, open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

*** Prayer of belief** Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn away from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.